

IMPERSONAL PASSIVE

Cette forme de passif (la 2^{ème} ligne) n'existe pas en français qui préfère la formulation avec « on », ou est peu naturelle (la 1^{ère} ligne).

1. People believe that English is the most widely spoken language

- It is believed that English is the most widely spoken language.
- English is believed to be the most widely spoken language.

2. Police have reported that it was Peter who caused the accident.

- It has been reported that it was Peter who caused the accident.
- Peter has been reported to have caused the accident.

3. A journalist reports that they are leaving Las Vegas tomorrow night.

- It is reported that they are leaving Las Vegas tomorrow night
- They are reported to be leaving Las Vegas tomorrow night

4. The lecturer thought that Columbus never realized that he had discovered America.

- It was thought that Columbus never realized that he had discovered America.
- Columbus was thought never to have realized that he had discovered America.

5. Their parents thought that the teenagers were dancing at the disco.

- It was thought that the teenagers were dancing at the disco.
- The teenagers were thought to be dancing at the disco.